

**Testimony Regarding Support for HB 5283 & SB 229 and  
School Construction Funds for Public Charter Schools  
March 4, 2022**

Co-Chairs Senator McCrory and Representative Sanchez and other distinguished members of the Education Committee,

My name is Jade Traylor , I am a freshman at The Bridge Academy. My school is in a low income community on the east side<sup>1</sup> of Bridgeport , CT.

“It’s not where you’re from it’s where you stand and I stand for the people of Connecticut”

Quick question Mr.Lamont , why would you NOT want to help charter schools all around Connecticut , if you “stand for the people of Connecticut”?

Charter Schools all around , especially my charter school , struggle with funding , resources for students (chromebooks and etc) , Busing for Highschoolers ( which only middle schoolers have) , repairs , staff , and obviously NOT ENOUGH FUNDS. If people who are in the same field or work with Lamont know that we are struggling , why can’t they help us out? At my school , most of the Chromebooks are outdated if we have any left , lack of teachers , lack of paraprofessionals , and just educational resources period.

Me , my school , and the rest of the students who thrive everyday in our school, will keep thriving no matter what. Even if we don’t get the funds that we need , we’ll keep fighting and advocating for our school. If the money was originally for the students of Connecticut , why isn’t it being used for the students? If you call this standing with the people of Connecticut , this is a very terrible example. We don’t hate Lamont , we hate his actions. At the end of the day , we just want the assistance we deserve. That’s my speech.

